

Allocation Formula Boundaries

Regional Transportation Alliance

NC General Assembly
Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee
Tuesday, April 6, 2010

www.LetsGetMoving.org

**Regional
Transportation
Alliance**
Let's get moving!™

Regional Transportation Alliance

- Founded by Cary, Chapel Hill-Carrboro, Durham and Raleigh CofCs in 1999
- Now 23 member chambers of commerce in 10 counties and 100+ members
- Voice of regional business community on regional transportation issues
- “Business leadership for regional mobility”

Transportation funding in NC

- Funding needs in both urban & rural areas
 - Urban areas need infrastructure investment to help sustain regional job engines
 - Rural areas need infrastructure investment to help jumpstart economies
 - Continued need for an allocation formula to ensure mobility needs met across the State

Transportation funding and job creation

- Consider modifying boundaries for planning and funding to highlight economic dev link
- Suggest using boundaries of 7 econ develop regions for funding and planning allocations
- Formula variables could stay the same (50% pop, 25% intrastate miles, 25% equal)

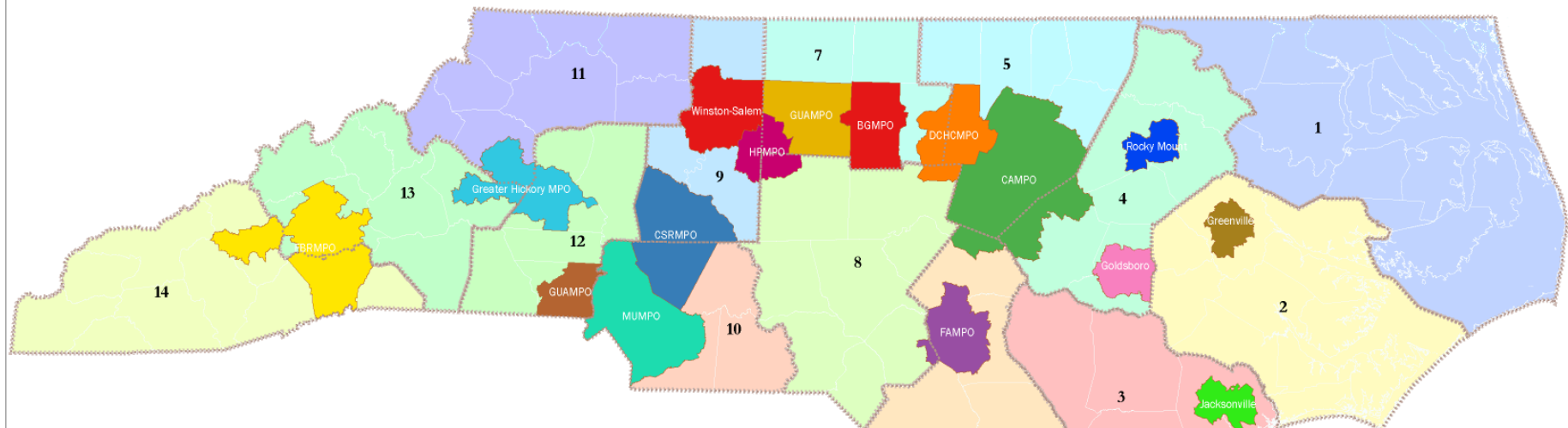
Transportation funding and job creation

- Econ development regions better reflect commuting patterns and economic markets
 - May help identify needs by highlighting links between transportation, econ development
 - May increase efficiency and foster synergies between transportation and job creation
 - MPO boundaries typically follow econ regions
- Possible source of competitive advantage

Transportation funding and job creation

- Fewer, more logical funding boundaries may result in less time spent on coordination
- Time saved = faster projects = more jobs
- With record unemployment, any option that could help job creation should be explored

Comparison of Highway Division and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Boundaries



13 & 14 G

11 & 12 F

7 & 9 D

5 & 6 C

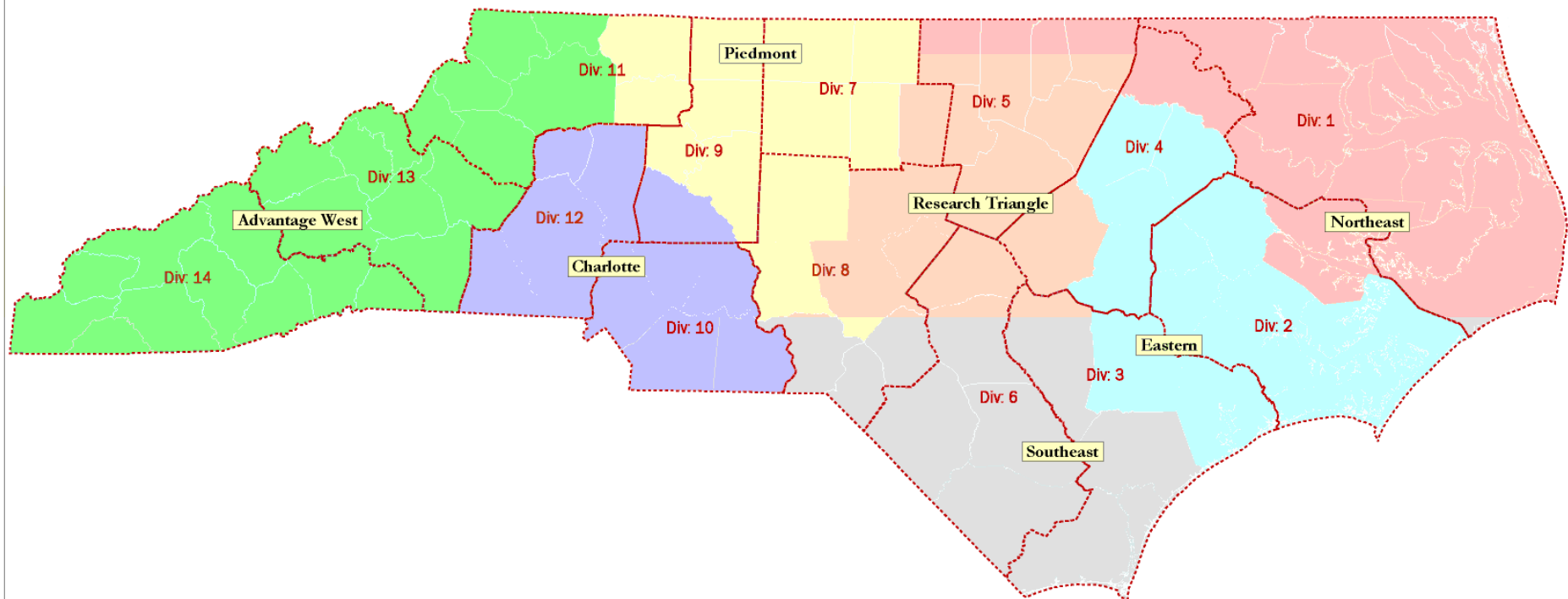
1 & 4 A

8 & 10 E

2 & 3 B

DOT Highway Division	NC County	Metropolitan Planning Organization
Burlington - Graham	Cabarrus-South Rowan Urban Area	Capital Area
Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro	Fayetteville Area	French Broad River
Gaston Urban Area	Goldsboro Urban Area	Greater Hickory
Greensboro Urban Area	Greenville Urban Area	High Point Urban Area
Jacksonville	Mecklenburg Union	Rocky Mount Urban Area
Wilmington Urban Area	Winston-Salem Urban Area	

Comparison of NCDOT Highway Divisions and Economic Development Regions



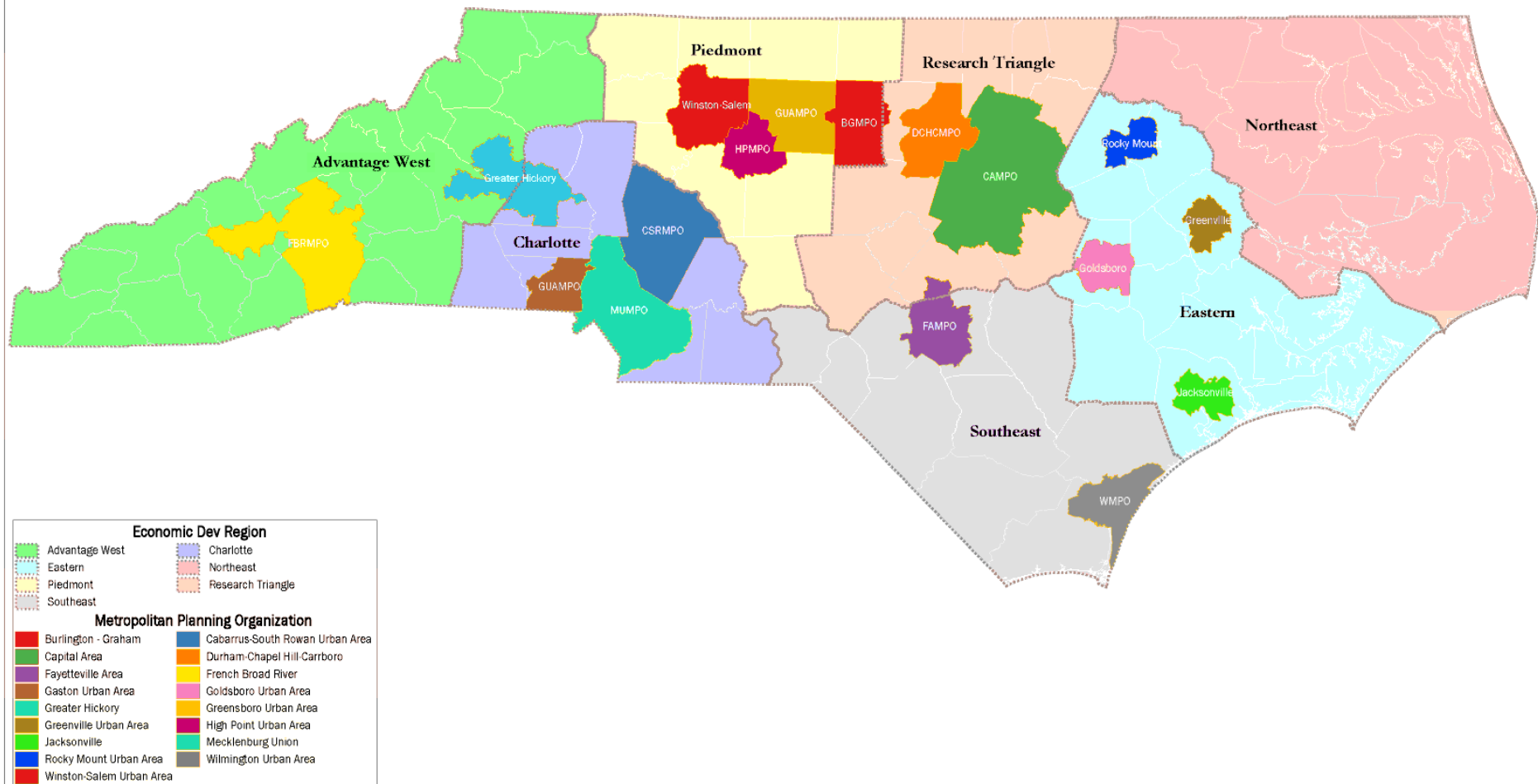
Eco Dev Region and DOT Highway Divisions

Economic Dev Region NC County DOT Division Boundary

Eco Dev Region

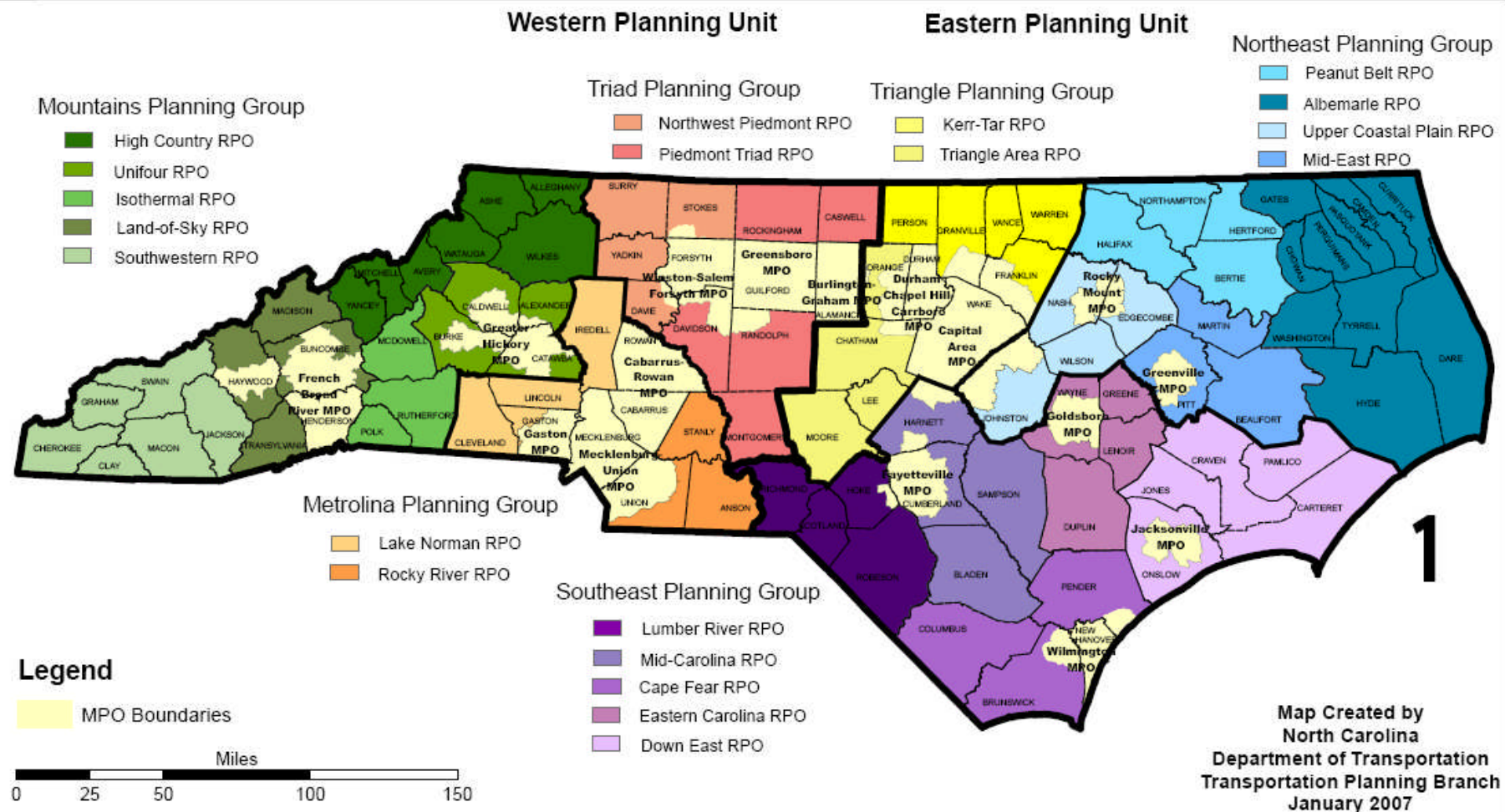
- Advantage West
- Charlotte
- Eastern
- Northeast
- Piedmont
- Research Triangle
- Southeast

Comparison of Economic Development Region and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Boundaries



Consistent with ongoing efforts

North Carolina Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Rural Planning Organizations



Conclusions

- Consider realigning the planning/funding boundaries with econ development regions
- The 7 econ dev regions better reflect commuting patterns and economic markets
- Should simplify coordination, better highlight regional needs, and increase efficiency
- Formula variables & 14 division operations boundaries could still remain as they are

- *“Project planning and decision making should occur in the field with project directors and engineers with expertise and hands-on knowledge.”*
- *“Decentralizing DOT, holding divisions accountable for results, and allowing them to partner with cities and counties and regions will create better management and execution of projects.”*
 - *Beverly Perdue, Jan 17, 2008 news release*

- *“I continue to support a realignment around economic regions. It makes no sense for Chapel Hill to be grouped with Greensboro.”*
- Recent remarks by past RTA Chair Ed Willingham

Allocation Formula Boundaries

Regional Transportation Alliance

NC General Assembly
Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee
Tuesday, April 6, 2010

www.LetsGetMoving.org

**Regional
Transportation
Alliance**
Let's get moving!™